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## Thailand

### Grain and Feed

### Weekly Rice Price Update

**2004**

**Approved by:**

Russ Nicely, Acting Agricultural Counselor  
U.S. Embassy, Bangkok

**Prepared by:**

Ponnarong Prasertsri, Agricultural Specialist

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**Report Highlights:**

Export prices increased further due to limited exportable supply and continued strengthening Thai Baht.

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Includes PSD Changes: No  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
Unscheduled Report  
Bangkok [TH1]  
[TH]

**Indicative Prices (Week Ending Dec. 7):**

Thailand: Export (FOB) Prices for various grades of rice (USD/M.T.)									
	Exporter Observations							Period Avg.	
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	CUR.	PRV.
F WR 100 B	-	-	462	467	-	440	435	451	448
WR 100 B	-	-	290	285	-	280	280	284	278
PB 5%	-	-	286	284	-	287	275	283	275
WR 5%	-	-	285	280	-	275	275	279	273
WR 10%	-	-	280	278	-	273	270	275	269
WR 15%	-	-	275	275	-	270	265	271	266
WR 25%	-	-	267	272	-	255	260	264	256
WR 35%	-	-	-	270	-	253	255	259	255
A 1 SUP	-	-	-	229	-	227	225	227	224
A 1 SPEC	-	-	-	226	-	-	223	225	221
Source: Average actual prices received from exporters									

**Market Tone**

Export prices for most grades of rice, white rice in particular, increased further, as exportable supply is limited. Most exporters are reportedly staying away from the market, as their old-crop stocks are running down. Meanwhile, the new-crop supply of white rice was mostly being held back from the market by farmers and millers because they expect higher domestic prices to result from the government intervention program. Also, further strengthening of the Thai Baht (to around 39 Baht/US\$, as compared to the previous week's average of 39.5 Baht/US\$) continued to boost the export prices. Export prices of white rice are expected to remain high for several weeks until Vietnam's new-crop supply comes into the market.

The following are reported rice exports (as is basis):

WEEK ENDING	QUANTITY	4-WK AVG	YEAR TO DATE	YEAR AGO
	(MT)	(MT)	(TMT)	(TMT)
OCT 17	214,774	207,062	6,170	3,912
OCT 24	208,260	203,847	6,378	4,035
OCT 31	235,062	214,026	6,613	4,188
NOV 7	177,334	208,857	6,790	4,318
NOV 14	173,515	198,543	6,964	4,432
NOV 21	136,609	180,630	7,101	4,572
NOV 28	159,569	161,757	7,260	4,727
DEC 5	164,956	158,662	7,425	4,818

*Note on data: Export figures since March 22, 2002, do not include fragrant rice. The authority to report fragrant rice exports was moved from the Thai Board of Trade to the Ministry of Commerce's Office of Commodity Standards, which does not release official fragrant rice export data. FAS/BKK will report only official export numbers from the Board of Trade for non-fragrant and from the Office of Commodity Standards for fragrant rice when available, but the reader should bear in mind the difference between the data.*

Unofficial exports (excluding fragrant rice) for Nov. 29 – Dec. 5, 2004 totaled 164,956 tons, up 5,387 tons from the previous week's total and up 6,294 tons from the four-week moving average of 158,662 tons. Exports during Jan. 1 – Dec. 5, 2004 totaled 7,425,077 tons, compared with 4,818,124 tons during the same period in 2003.

According to the Department of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Commerce, total rice exports (including fragrant rice) during Jan. 1- Nov. 24, 2004, amounted to 9,078,443 tons, up 39 percent from 6,535,721 tons in the previous year. Despite an anticipated slowdown in Thai rice exports for the rest of the year, total rice exports are expected to reach a record 9.7 million tons in CY 2004.

### Weekly Rice Sales

Private registered rice export sales for the period of Nov. 15-19, Nov. 22-26, and Nov. 29 – Dec. 3, 2004 are as follows:

Movement (MT)	Nov. 15-19	Nov 22-26	Nov. 29 – Dec. 3
weekly sales	129,963	230,110	160,003
4 week sum	791,684	833,225	800,220
4 week mov. avg.	197,921	208,306	200,055
Total weekly sales	7,978,341	8,208,451	8,368,454

End of Report.